

Senate Joint Resolution No. 29

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 78

Senate Joint Resolution No. 29—Relative to Homeland Security.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 30, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 29, Kehoe. Homeland Security: California.

This measure would urge the United States Department of Homeland Security to revisit its calculation of risk for the San Diego and Sacramento areas to ensure their inclusion in future Urban Area Security Initiative grant programs.

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has identified California as one of the highest threat areas in the country; and

WHEREAS, The 2006 fiscal year Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program and grant guidance formulas have been changed and now allocate homeland security funding based on risk; and

WHEREAS, State and local governments were not consulted on the data used to calculate the risk; and

WHEREAS, Populous, high-risk cities such as San Diego and Sacramento are now only eligible to receive sustaining funds, and may lose UASI funding entirely in the 2007 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, The Sacramento region is home to the governing capitol of the world's sixth largest economy; and

WHEREAS, The Sacramento region contains multiple rivers, levees, and dams as part of a system that serves the water needs of more than 20 million Californians; and

WHEREAS, As an example, the Folsom Dam is critical to flood control, water and power supply and a terrorist strike on Folsom Dam would have immediate and serious effects on power generation and water supplies and could release up to one million acre-feet of water stored in Folsom Lake, resulting in debilitating floods; and

WHEREAS, Well reported cases of terrorist connections to a mosque in Lodi and the radicalization of inmates at Folsom Prison are examples of some of the threats to the Sacramento region and support the need for continued UASI funding; and

WHEREAS, San Diego is the second largest city in California and is the nation's seventh largest city; and

WHEREAS, The San Diego region is home to the San Onofre nuclear powerplant, the Port of San Diego, and several critical military bases, including Camp Pendleton, San Diego Naval Station, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, and North Island Naval Air Station; and

WHEREAS, One-third of the U.S. Naval Pacific Fleet is home ported in San Diego Bay, including nuclear carriers and nuclear submarines; and

WHEREAS, Even though some have said that the region's military presence is a deterrent to terrorist attacks and therefore the region is not considered vulnerable, we cannot forget that terrorists have already succeeded in attacking the Pentagon and have consistently attacked military bases overseas, including the USS Cole; and

WHEREAS, The port of entry at San Ysidro on the border with Mexico is the busiest in the world, with approximately 50 million people crossing through it into the United States every year; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the California Legislature joins Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and certain members of the California Congressional delegation in calling upon the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to revisit its calculation of risk for these two critical regions of the state to ensure their inclusion in future Urban Area Security Initiative grant programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.